

Hobbies

Coin organization turns to computers

By Roger Boye

The nation's largest organization of coin collectors may try to halt the decline in its membership by using computer technology.

Since 1988, the American Numismatic Association has lost about 7 percent of its members—to a low of 29,000 at the end of its 1991-92 fiscal year. The association's president says the ANA may be relying too much on services that worked in the past, such as publishing a monthly magazine and conducting conventions.

"It is time for us to take advantage of the technology now in our hands and put it to work for our mutual benefit," wrote ANA President Edward C. Rochette in his column in the *Numismatist*, ANA's magazine.

Rochette has appointed a task force to study whether the ANA should establish a computer network for members as one way to

get more collectors to join the organization. The ANA also has decided to survey its membership about U.S. Treasury products, coinage redesign, a circulating round dollar and other hobby-related issues.



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